GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3475
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
COCONUT TREES IN LAKSHADWEEP
Koya Dr. P. Pookunhi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Coconut trees estimated in the Union Territory of Lakshdweep;

(b) the total number of Coconuts harvested from these trees during each of the last three years;

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Government to enhance the production of Coconuts in these Islands;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of projects being implemented by the Government for the value addition of the Coconut products and its by-products; and

(f) the support price offered by the NAFED for the current procurement season for coconut products of Copra and the quantity of Copra procured under this scheme till date and projected till the end of the season?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): There are about 6.534 lakh coconut frees in an area of 2700 hectare, in the Union Territory of Lakshdweep, as per the All India Final Estimates (2003-04) of area and production of coconut.

(b): The production of coconut in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep during the last three years, for which published data of the Department of Economics and Statistics available, is as follows:

Year	Number of nuts in Million
2001-02	53.1
2002-03	53.0
2003-04	53.0

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. The Coconut Development Board is implementing, through the Union Territory of Lakshadweep, a programme on High Value Agriculture since 2004-05, under which, the activities such as Cutting & removal of disease advanced/senile palms, Integrated Farming in coconut holdings, Laying out Demonstration Plots, Establishment of Organic Manure Units, Training Programme and study tours for the farmers etc., are taken up for enhancing the production, productivity and income of coconut farmers. An amount of Rs.33.55 lakhs is made available for utilization by 2005-06 for implementing the above schemes.

(e): The Coconut Development Board is implementing programmes for promoting establishment of integrated coconut processing units for value addition, on a project basis under the Coconut Technology Mission as part of High Value Agriculture Programme. An amount of Rs.204.80 lakhs has been earmarked under the programme.

(f): The Minimum Support Price, for the season of 2006 is Rs.3590/- for milling Copra per quintal and Rs.3840/- for edible ball copra per quintal. NAFED, during the current season, has so far procured 1750 metric tones of milling copra in Lakshadweep Islands and estimated to procure around 2500 to 3000 Mt. by the end of the season.